AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.116 – EXPEDITED PROCEDURE

Serial Number: 09/921478

Filing Date: August 3, 2001

Title: AN IONICALLY CONDUCTIVE POLYMERIC COMPOSITION

Page 3 Dkt: 1080.165US3

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) An ionically conductive polymeric composition comprising a polymer and an ionic medium wherein the polymer has a molecular weight from about 100,000 to about 10,000,000 daltons and wherein the ionic medium is adapted for reversible reduction-oxidation reactions and is not adhesive, and the composition has a conductive impedance value between 600 ohm to 22500 ohm measured at 100 Hz to 100 kHz when used as a coating on an implantable cardiac stimulus electrode.

- 2. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 1, wherein the polymer is polyethylene oxide, polyethylene terpthalate, hydrogels, or polyacrylates.
- 3. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 2, wherein the polymer is polyethylene oxide having a molecular weight of about 100,000-5,000,000 daltons.
- 4. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 1, wherein the ionic medium is NaCl or another ionizable compound that does not alter a human recipient's body chemistry during the period of time that an electrode coated with said composition is implanted.
- 5. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 1, further comprising at least one steroid, inorganic filler, antithrombotic agent, anticoagulant agent, anti-infection agent, or thrombolytic agent.
- 6-25. (Cancelled)
- 26. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 1, wherein the ionically conductive polymeric composition comprises an electrically conductive ionic species.

AN IONICALLY CONDUCTIVE POLYMERIC COMPOSITION

- 27. (Cancelled)
- (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 1, further comprising plasticizer salts. 28.
- (Cancelled) 29.
- (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 5, wherein the inorganic filler is 30. alumina, silica, or a combination thereof.
- 31-36. (Cancelled)
- (Previously Presented) An ionically conductive polymeric composition comprising: 37.
 - 5-10% by weight polyethylene oxide; and
 - 1-2% by weight NaCl,

wherein the composition has a conductive impedance value between 600 ohm to 22500 ohm measured at 100 Hz to 100 kHz.

- (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 37 further comprising a solvent in a 38. 50:50 volume ratio alcohol:water.
- (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 37 wherein the polyethylene oxide has 39. a molecular weight from about 100 kd to about 5,000 kd.
- 40. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 37 further comprising an inorganic filler.
- (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 40, wherein the inorganic filler is 41. alumina or silica.
- (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 37 further comprising plasticizer salts. 42.

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Page 5 Dkt: 1080.165US3

43-48. (Cancelled)